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Ideas... 4-H and YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

FEDERAL EXTENSION SERVICE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Secretary Hardin gave a real boost to 4-H in his talk with State Extension Directors who recently met in Washington, D.C. He strongly indicated that youth work, i.e. 4-H, is one of his major interests in future USDA programming. He feels that key to 4-H success is the use of volunteer leaders and the fact that 4-H starts with young children. Secretary Hardin is especially concerned that 4-H be expanded in urban areas.

TV REVIEW BOARD: The first meeting of the National 4-H TV Review Board was held here in Washington, July 9-11. The purpose of the Review Board is to guide the development and use of instructional 4-H TV programs for multi-State and nationwide use. Specifically, the Board has assignment to: (1) develop a long range plan for instructional 4-H television programming; (2) review and recommend appropriate action for proposals and ideas for instructional 4-H TV programs; (3) recommend the development and production of instructional 4-H TV series in specific subject matter areas; and (4) establish necessary guidelines for development and use of instructional 4-H TV programs designed for nationwide use.

A special committee to begin development of a nutrition TV series met July 14-16. It established the purposes and objectives and developed a framework for subject-matter content. In the report to ECOP, the 4-H TV Ad Hoc Committee recommended that high priority be given to a 4-H nutrition series.

ADULT SESSIONS AT 4-H CONGRESS: General sessions on Monday and Thursday and subject-matter emphasis sessions in nutrition, plant science and entomology will be featured at the 4-H Congress. The Monday session will also include a report from the 4-H Subcommittee.

PLANNING THE 1970 NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE: Eight delegates to the 1969 National 4-H Conference were selected to assist in planning for 1970. They met with Dr. Charles Freeman of the National 4-H Club Foundation and Russ Smith of our staff at the Hall of Youth at the University of Nebraska. The young people were chosen on the basis of recommendations from this year's delegates, suggestions from adults who assisted with Conference, high school and college participation, and geographic areas. They proposed major program areas, discussion topics, resource persons, and overall format. Participants were: Cathy Clingan, Arizona; Elizabeth Humber, Alabama; Clyde Jackson, Virginia; Dick Martin, Iowa; Marian Metcalfe, Maryland; Douglas Potter, New York; Sally Ann Rosenow, Wisconsin; and Paul Sublette, Oregon.

COOPERATING WITH LAND GRANT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

FOURTH ANNUAL 4-H ELECTRIC WORKSHOP: Power suppliers and their personnel, plus Extension staff concerned with 4-H electric programs, will meet in Minneapolis August 26. This is preceding the National Farm Power Conference. They will be searching for new ideas and more teamwork to reach more youth in the 4-H Electric program. Key speaker will be Mr. J. Phil Campbell, Under Secretary of Agriculture, USDA. Two of the National 4-H Reporters will explain modern 4-H programs from youth's viewpoint. Successful State experiences in 4-H electric will be reported from Missouri, Illinois, North Dakota, Minnesota and Georgia.

PLANS FOR 4-H YOUTH SECTION AT ASAW: The Association of Southern Agricultural Workers Committee has planned a program emphasizing 4-H curriculum development and the leadership resources for its implementation. The first day of the program will stress curriculum plans for TV series, work with the disadvantaged and urban 4-H. The second day, volunteer leadership and program assistants will be considered. Pete Williams of Oklahoma is chairman of the Section.

DATES OF NATIONAL 4-H WEEK: In your planning for 4-H Week, the question of date may be raised. In moving from a spring to a fall date, consideration was given to the clustering of youth weeks in the spring months as well as to program reasons inherent in 4-H. For your information, "Chases' Calendar of Annual Events" lists six weeks of organization observances similar to ours: (Opening day given) Boy Scout Week, February 7; FFA Week, February 15; Girl Scout Week, March 9; Boys' Club Week, March 16; FHA Week, March 23; Camp Fire Girls Birthday Week, March 23.

In the fall, we find only these three: National 4-H Week, October 5; Education Week, November 9; and Farm-City Week, November 21.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONFERENCE FOR SEVEN TVA STATES: Nearly 250 4-H members of the TVA area studied the seven natural resources of soils, forests, atmosphere, water, minerals, wildlife and human. The conference theme was stated "Resource Development--The Foundation of Tomorrow." Site of the June conference was Fontana Village, near TVA's Fontana Dam, in the Smoky Mountain Country of western North Carolina. Host State for 1969 was Mississippi.

TESTING NUTRITION "GAMES": Selected groups of Citizenship Shortcourse delegates are helping test and evaluate some educational teaching games in the nutrition area being developed at USDA. This was a procedure in working with Johns Hopkins University on earlier simulations.

USEFUL TOOL FOR STAFF TRAINING: From Georgia and from Montana we have enthusiastic comments about a filmstrip-record entitled "Dare to be Different", which deals with pressures of the peer group. It's in two parts, each of which may be used separately: (1) Fitting In--shows and tells what conformity means, and (2) Standing Out--indicates that although some conformity is necessary and healthy, social progress is achieved through individual initiative. Developed by Guidance Associates and available from Harcourt, Brace and World, Pleasantville, N. Y. 10570.

AMERICAN DAIRY PRINCESS HAS 4-H RECORD: Frances Mary Bispo, newly-crowned American Dairy Princess is a 9-year 4-H'er from Merced, Calif.

/SHARING SOME OF THE GOOD IDEAS IN STATE PROGRAMS/

PROGRESS ON NUTRITION

CONNECTICUT - In Housing Units

A program aide is working directly with families in Bridgeport, Conn. to improve their nutrition, also their skills of food purchasing and food preparation. There are 159 girls from a low-income housing unit (Beardsley Terrace) being reached, with the assistance of adult leaders from the housing unit and 10 junior leaders. Weekly training meetings are conducted by the program aide for the adult and junior leaders. The aide has gained full acceptance and cooperation from the management of the housing unit.

A Spanish-speaking nutrition assistant in Hartford, Conn. is reaching Puerto Rican youth in a housing unit. Following the aide's contact with the family, an effort is made to get youth participation in special interest activities at the Extension apartment.

LOUISIANA - Youth and Adult Approach

On a dual approach involving both adults and youth 400 aides have been working in 30 parishes. A basic assumption is that mothers can be motivated through their children. Each of the aides has enrolled at least 15 homemakers and two of her children. The children are contacted in a series of group meetings and the homemakers through individual home visits. An interesting idea has been to send follow-up letters to the children with further emphasis on the topic of the previous week's meeting. The first six months program was planned to reach 6,000 homemakers and 12,000 youth, but may well total over 26,000.

MICHIGAN - Total Family Involvement

Extension nutrition aides have worked individually with youth whose mothers were also being reached with nutrition information. There has also been informal group activity with youth. Undergraduate and graduate college students have been hired on a temporary basis during the summer months to work in conjunction with the nutrition program aides. Their role is primarily directed toward working with youth in families now in the Expanded program and to work with youth of nonparticipating families in an effort to reach such families.

MINNESOTA - Training on Youth Dimension

The agent training for those working on the expanded nutrition effort included a half-day devoted to youth work in relation to the nutrition program.

NEW YORK - Youth Aides

In about a dozen counties the youth component includes youth aides teaching other youth or adult aides teaching youth. In many cases, older 4-H members help implement the programs. Local flexibility is a key factor in programs that emphasize basic nutrition and food preparation, supplemented with health, safety and personal development.

OTHER LOW INCOME AND INNER-CITY

CONNECTICUT - 4-H Emblem is Well Known

A welcome sight for youth in the inner city of Hartford, Conn. is a large green and white emblem on the door of a warehouse where Extension youth programs are being conducted. The warehouse, located in the ghetto, is the University of Connecticut's linkage to the inner city. Two professional Extension workers are giving leadership to the program with the help of program assistants. Boys are involved in a horticulture program. An outgrowth of the boys' participation in the 4-H small engines program will be transporting them to other residential sections where they will mow lawns for part time jobs. Girls have participated in food and nutrition, clothing, and related art and crafts projects. Tours for the summer are being planned to provide some cultural experiences.

INDIANA - Indianapolis Expands Day Camping Program

A one week "camping" program initiated in Indianapolis, Ind. in 1968, utilizing State Fair facilities has been expanded to five weeks in 1969. One hundred fifty youth will be reached each week. The program has support from the Sears-Roebuck Foundation and the Eli Lilly Company. Junior leaders, trained by Extension Agents, work directly with the young people under the direction of Joseph Eads, a teacher. A significant part of this program is that the young people help to plan and conduct the activities. They are encouraged to use ingenuity in designing ways to use rope, sticks, old tires, and even broken glass.

MARYLAND - Special Interest Project for Inner-City

Baltimore County is piloting a special "Flower Power" project in a low-income area of their county. Youth will receive instruction in growing flowering plants in a short-term effort.

MASSACHUSETTS - Urban Work in Boston

The expanding urban 4-H program in the Roxbury-Dorchester area is responsible for some outstanding work with growing flowers in vacant city lots, an idea adapted from the Philadelphia program. Enthusiastic work is also going on in clothing, foods, woodworking, crafts, small motors, and are now planning for an automotive program. Eight aides are giving assistance to the agent. Many volunteer and junior leaders are involved. They work out of three different community centers.

MICHIGAN - 4-H Active in Flint, Inner-City

Over 400 inner-city girls and boys are meeting in informal groups learning about flower gardening, woodworking, clothing and foods and other projects. Program aides and work-study students are assisting the professional staff in teaching. In many cases 4-H is providing the first opportunity to use tools and work with their hands. "The key to our entire inner-city program is to remain flexible and adapt to meet the needs of a certain area" stated one of the Genesee County 4-H youth program assistants.

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Opportunity Camp

A two-week camp for underprivileged boys is planned for the end of the 4-H camping schedule. O.E.O. is cooperating with Extension for the camp. Most of the campers will be from Manchester.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

ALASKA - Training for Village Volunteer Workers

A workshop for October 30 - November 7 is to be funded by Title I Higher Education funds. Harlem Sandberg developed the proposal based on planning with other youth program leaders. Although aimed at adult volunteer leaders, the workshop would help native youth flow into the main stream of American society.

HAWAII - Leaders' Midyear Meeting

Kona was the setting for the annual conference of volunteer 4-H leaders. Dr. Shirley Weeks, Extension Family Life Specialist, was the key resource person using "What's Your HRQ" as the theme. (HRQ is human relations quotient.)

MICHIGAN - Teen Leadership Schools

Five schools, extending through January, are designed for teen and adult leaders to receive intensive training to help them conduct teen leader training back home. Counties are urged to send one adult for each four teens. Proposals may be submitted to receive partial funding for follow-up multi-county training.

MASSACHUSETTS - Urban 4-H Leaders' Training Institute in May

This highly successful event utilized staff from the Human Relations Center at Boston University. The program centered on helping 4-H leaders examine issues of relevance to 4-H in urban areas and establishing realistic goals.

We would be interested to learn of such training programs on urban-low income in other States.

NEW YORK - Staff Members Sharpen Tools to Reach Low-Income

Over 100 Extension 4-H Agents, faculty members, State 4-H staff, program aides, and representatives of other youth organizations received in-service training, May 12-14. William Porter, Executive Director for Project Progress in Washington, D.C. was key resource person for the conference designed to help participants understand: The life situations of the poor; their value, attitudes, characteristics and strengths; communications and techniques needed to reach them; and the principles of developing a program. Case examples were an important dimension.

PUERTO RICO - Study How to Expand 4-H

A study is proposed to test new methods of organizing and programming 4-H in order to make it available to many more communities and a significantly larger number of youth and adults. Consideration will be given to whether other community organizations in addition to schools can serve as sponsoring agencies.

SOUTH DAKOTA - Three-Year 4-H Expansion Plan

Staff are being equipped for a three-year emphasis plan which includes: 1969 - Expanding through clubs, with emphasis on ages 9-12; 1970 - Special interest programs and self-determined projects; and 1971 - Special audiences. Concurrently, a program of strengthening county 4-H leaders organizations will be carried out.

SOUTH CAROLINA - Staff Training

"Working with Tomorrow's Adults" is theme for an August 25-29 workshop. Dr. Eugene Peisner of Michigan State will be resource person.

TEXAS - Plan for Staff Training

A comprehensive training plan has been developed; two phases will be implemented soon. One is a seminar for all (160) of the Headquarters staff and two, a follow-up three-four day session with all agents, to be held on district basis.

PROJECT TRAINING

ILLINOIS - Electric Tour

Ten boys and ten girls attended a three-day clinic and tour in Chicago relating to electricity usage and careers. With cooperation of the Illinois Farm Electrification Council and other donors, the resources used included the Chicago Lighting Institute, a manufacturing plant, the Museum of Science and Industry, the air terminal, the Board of Trade, and computers in a banking institution.

MARYLAND - "Mini Mananagers"

A project being field tested in Montgomery County aims to teach basic management principles to 9 to 11 year olds and involving parents as leaders. In the pilot county 15 leaders have been working with 75 girls.

MINNESOTA - 4-H Automotive Program

The 4-H Automotive program in Anoka County enrolled 1,516 members, with 60 junior leaders and 28 adult instructors for a series of six meetings. An outstanding job was done for member participation and in the procedure used to involve county and city government, civic organization, school officials and others. At the final meeting, participants judged used cars, identified auto parts, calculated cost of an auto trip and identified traffic signs and safety hazards. Copies of their report "You and the Auto" are available.

NEW YORK - Child Care Members Working with Head Start

Because of successful experience of older members enrolled in child development projects assisting with Head Start, agents in interested counties were invited to a special workshop. They were provided with a set of 10 lessons that could be offered on a workshop basis to youth who agree to spend a minimum of 10 hours observing and working with a group of children under supervision of a trained adult.

PENNSYLVANIA - 22 Counties Conduct 4-H Career Exploration

Twenty-two counties have now had experience and plans include even greater enrollment for the fall of 1969. Visuals are being updated and evaluation forms prepared. Counties conducting the career project this fall will hold planning sessions during the summer with leaders, school officials, and resource people.

NEWS OF OUR COWORKERS

Mrs. Richard M. Nixon and J. C. Penney were named honorary co-chairmen of the National 4-H Club Foundation Advisory Board. Announcement was made by Howard C. Harder, head of the Advisory Council. Mrs. Nixon was a 4-H'er in Los Angeles County; Mr. Penney was cited as a Partner-in-4-H in April.

Over a dozen 4-H staff members participated in the American Home Economics Association meetings in Boston recently. Audrey Sandstead of Colorado completed her two-year term as Chairman of the Extension Section.

Dr. Jerry Macklin, formerly Kentucky State Leader, joins the National 4-H Foundation staff. His primary responsibility will be to assist 4-H in program development.

Roy Beard, formerly associate county agent in Minnehaha County, joins the State 4-H staff in South Dakota. John Thompson, is named acting 4-H program leader for the District of Columbia. John's athletic interests are one of his assets; he once played with the Boston Celtics. William R. Mollender is named an Extension 4-H and youth leader in Iowa, moving from an assignment as Extension assistant in education. Montana has named Jane Brunswold and Marian Moline to be area home economists. Bob Lewis joins the Pennsylvania the Pennsylvania staff as assistant State club leader. He recently completed graduate work at North Carolina.

Jeanette Carnes, formerly Oklahoma, is now a 4-H leader for 19 counties in Virginia. Betty Mifflin of Florida will also be joining the Virginia team as program coordinator in nutrition; she will be concerned with the family and youth. Esther Whetstone is returning to the Iowa 4-H and Youth staff. She has been on a special assignment relating to consumer education.

Lowell Rothert, Michigan, is back on the active 4-H staff, after a period on study leave. Lowell and Jake Wamhoff recently completed their doctor's degrees at Michigan State.

Dr. "Bill" Metcalf of Massachusetts moves to Minnesota about September 1 for an adult education position. Elizabeth Berman, formerly Hawaii, has resigned from the State 4-H staff. Her husband is doing graduate study in the Midwest.

Nell Connell of Pennsylvania has retired. Actually Nell has had two outstanding careers in 4-H. She worked several years before marriage. After her husband's death, she returned to the State 4-H staff.

Two former 4-H workers have recently been named as State Home Economics Leaders: Mrs. Martha Harrison Jones in Georgia and Miss Beatrice May in New Jersey. Miss May has just left the position of 4-H specialist in Textiles and Clothing.

Annabel Rupel of the Indiana 4-H staff is in Europe with the 4-H People-to-People group. Eugene Morris, an area agent, is also an adult adviser.

John Merchant, was honored by the Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative Association. He was presented a plaque for encouraging 4-H project work in dairy management and for providing youth with a voice in policy making.

Sue Fisher and Wayne Carlson of Minnesota have been designated to take a leadership role in modernizing 4-H project programs. In September, they will visit FES and two States in the Northeast.

Dr. Glenn Busset, Rollyn Winters and Bob Pinches were in a meeting to discuss resources and future uses of remote terminals, tied to data banks and computers.

James Dave Almond, FES Wildlife Specialist, and Frank H. Jeter, Jr., new on the FES Information Services staff, will both be giving valued help to 4-H.

John Banning of our staff spent July 5-11 in the Bahamas serving as a resource for program development and assisting with their National Youth Conference. Another consultant was Mrs. Adeline T. Evans, who works with urban 4-H in Buffalo.

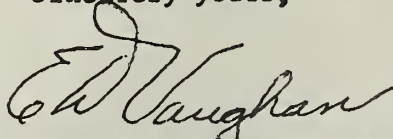
Louise Kilpatrick of Maryland, Polly Fussell of our staff and two 4-H members participated in a conference on volunteers working with food assistance programs, part of an effort to encourage volunteerism in all appropriate ways. They worked with women from the Extension Homemakers Council and FES Home Economics Division.

/IN CLOSING/

A full-page spread in The Evening Times, Trenton, N.J. had an illustrated article entitled "Children Respond When Adults Care". Here's the way the youth dimensions of the Expanded Nutrition program in Mercer County were described:

"What began as an experiment last January in reaching youngsters through 4-H-operated classes and instilling in them the knowledge of such basics as what makes a good meal and how to set a table, has turned into a successful network of community programs that also provides them with a crucial sense of belonging and the opportunity to identify with adult leadership."

Sincerely yours,



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Enclosures